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Birmingham, 29.

Editorial Notes

MEETINGS: The meeting at Birmingham of ABTAPL which was tentatively arranged to take place in September had, after all, to be cancelled, as not enough members could attend; several wrote to say that the timing was unfortunate owing to such things as holidays. Evidently the idea of such a meeting from time to time is approved, but it is difficult to select the most suitable occasion.

SCOTAPLL are considering the arrangement of a visit to Canterbury during next Easter vacation, and details will be sent out in due course.

The constitution of ABTAPL requires it to hold an Annual General Meeting, at which reports and accounts are considered. The Committee has arranged such a meeting on Thursday, February 19th, 1959, at 4 p.m., at Dr. Williams's Library; formal notices will be distributed by Miss Ferrier.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE: Nominations are required for Officers and other members of the Committee for 1959. They should be sent in writing, supported by two members of ABTAPL, as soon as possible to Miss Ferrier at the address shown opposite. There was a dearth of nominations last year, and in the end the Committee had to co-opt to make up the full numbers; the Committee hope that there will be a better response this year.

BOOK LISTS: With an earlier issue of this Bulletin members each received a copy of "Select lists of books on theology and philosophy published in Great Britain and Ireland in 1957"; a duplicated pamphlet compiled by Father Courtney and the Rev. R. Thomas. In the preamble the compilers looked forward to a similar list for 1958 which would be somewhat ampler in that it would include, among other things, brief annotations. Much work has already been done, and it is abundantly clear that the resulting list will be bigger than that for 1957; it cannot be issued and financed in the same way, nor is it likely to be finished in a reasonable time unless volunteers can be found to help with the annotations.

Both Father Courtney and Mr. Thomas are most anxious to know how useful the 1957 list was to recipients, and whether successor lists are desired. They wish to know also whether annotations are likely to be helpful or whether they may be omitted. If volunteers for the compilation of annotations come forward, would there be enough subscribers (at, say, 2s.6d.)

within the U.K. anyhow) to make it possible to go ahead with the venture? It is reckoned that 200 subscriptions would make it possible to take the plunge.

The paper by Father Courtney on the German and Dutch associations, on pp.3-6 of this issue, shows all too clearly how much can be undertaken by an enthusiastic membership, and how important bibliographies are considered to be. It is much to be desired that we should achieve something worth while in this direction.

Will all those interested in this venture, from whatever angle, communicate with the Rev. F. Courtney, S.J., Heythrop College, Chipping Norton, Oxon., and as soon as possible, please.

I very much hope that there will be some response to this appeal; on referring back to the last issue I see that I asked for two things in my Editorial Notes. One request was for specimens of lists of additions and other such publications issued by members of ABTAPL, together with information on such matters as frequency of publication, availability, and so on. Not one single response reached me. Do none of our libraries issue any lists at all? And if so, how do they keep their readers and other interested persons informed of what they possess and acquire?

The other request was for information about schemes of classification used in our libraries, and particularly about specially devised schemes, or special adaptations of general schemes. Here again I received not a single reply.

In view of this, it seems a little unexpected, to say the least of it, that there should have been enquiries about the lateness of appearance of this issue, for which a variety of factors are to blame. I hope that future issues will appear promptly.

R. J. Hoy.

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Morgan (F.C.) Hereford Cathedral; the Vicars Choral Library.
1958. 2/-d. c/o, City Library, Hereford, Woolhope Club.
[BNB 58-6970]

Society for Old Testament Study. Book list. 1958. 6/-d.
Llansadwra, Menai Bridge, Anglesey, N. Wales.
[BNB 58-12706.]

Theological Library
Associations in Germany and Holland

From 19 to 21 September, 1957, I was privileged to attend the annual conference of the German Catholic Library Association (Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft katholisch-theologischer Bibliotheken). (The 1957 annual meeting was held at the Hochschule St. Georgen, Frankfurt am Main. It is customary to vary the place of meeting from year to year.) There were present also guests from Holland and France. From these it was learned that a similar organisation already existed in Holland and that there was a prospect of one's being formed in France. As yet no such association has been developed by the Protestant theological libraries in Germany.

In the hope that it might provide a stimulus to actual and potential members of ABTAPL and acquaint them with some of the work that is going on in similar associations on the Continent, I am setting down here a few notes on the nature and work of the German and Dutch groups.

The decision to form the German Association was taken on 12 August, 1947, at a conference of librarians of Catholic theological schools held at the Hochschule St. Georgen, Frankfurt am Main. It was hoped that an association of interested libraries would be of help in overcoming the book shortage consequent on the damage sustained by many libraries during the war. It was also felt that such an association would be a stimulus to the promotion of theological studies. The group thus formed at Frankfurt under its first President - Professor L. Ueding of St. Georgen - was soon joined by the libraries of a number of abbeys and monastic houses of study which had already been collaborating as far back as 1933. At present the Association counts some sixty member libraries; membership is open to the libraries of seminaries, abbeys, and the houses of study of religious orders and congregations.

A service of inter-library loans, modelled on that of the German public libraries, and intended to supplement the depleted resources of these public libraries, was soon established. In order to avoid excessive calls on the stock of certain of the larger member libraries it was decided to divide the Federal Republic into three regions or zones. Requests for loans are in the first instance to be made to libraries within the zone of the applicant library. Only in the event of failure to secure a book within its own region is it permissible for application to be made beyond it. Applications are made on standardised printed forms which are circulated from one library in the zone to another until the book is found.

In order to facilitate the loan-service, librarians have been invited to provide headquarters with information about their resources, approximate totals of holdings, and half-yearly accession lists of foreign books and periodicals. This information is communicated to member libraries.

Provision is also made for the circulation of lists of books desired on loan by member libraries. Normally the period of loan does not exceed 4 weeks, but extensions are possible, as also reservations of books for loan at a future specified date. Individual libraries are free to withhold certain of their books from the loan-service, and to impose conditions about the transmission of their stock.

Another activity of the Association is the exchange of duplicates and search lists. Details of the duplicates are entered on specially printed forms. Only works in general demand are admitted to these lists. When completed the forms are filed according to subject matter by headquarters. At fixed intervals these files are circulated in rotation to member libraries. On receipt of the file, a library desirous of acquiring any of the books offered extracts from the file the forms bearing details of such offers, and sends them to the offering libraries, whence the books are received direct. In order to secure equality of opportunity for all the members, the starting-point of the circulation of the file is varied each time it is sent out.

The price of these duplicates is reckoned at half the purchase price, more or less. The fundamental principle is that of exchange and mutual help. It is insisted that this principle must prevail over the desire, however legitimate, to demand higher prices for rare works. At the end of the year the balance between expenditure and receipts is adjusted in cash. But provision is made for immediate cash payment by libraries which have no duplicates to offer. The system has worked well, and has been especially beneficial to libraries with small financial resources. Members pledge themselves to use the acquisitions only to fill the gaps in their stock, and not for re-sale.

The exchange of duplicate periodicals, whether of individual issues or of more or less complete sets, is controlled by a separate department of the Association. The system is much the same as for the exchange of duplicate books.

To facilitate the loan-service of periodicals a start was made on a union catalogue of all periodicals in the possession of member-libraries. As this project was likely to take a considerable amount of time to complete, it was then decided first to make a list of the periodicals, German and foreign,

currently taken by the various libraries.

A leaflet issued by the Association looks forward to the extension of its services outside Germany. The most practical way of realising this aspiration would appear to be co-operation with theological library associations already established, or to be established, in various countries, and affiliation to the International Association of Theological Libraries. Preliminary steps in this direction have already been taken as a result of a communication made by the present writer to the German Association at their annual meeting in Frankfurt in September, 1957.

In Holland there is in existence an Association of the Libraries of Religious Orders and Congregations. Its activities include the compilation of a union catalogue of periodicals, the exchange of catalogue cards of acquisitions, the organization of purchases of foreign books, and an information service. Each year it conducts a course in librarianship for the clergy. This course lasts three weeks with ninety hours of lectures in all. A certificate of proficiency may be obtained by those taking part in the course.

A most interesting project which has been undertaken by the Association is the preparation of bibliographies covering the basic requirements of ecclesiastical libraries. The plan of the bibliographies groups the material under forty-three subject headings. Some of these are sub-divided into appropriate sub-sections.

The subject headings include bibliography, library administration, all branches of philosophy, dogmatic and moral theology, canon law, scripture, liturgy, ecclesiastical history, missiology and comparative religion. For the bibliography on Protestantism the Association has secured the services of the professors of the Calvinistic Free University of Amsterdam. Some fifty specialists are at present engaged on the preparation of these bibliographies. The objective set before them is not an exhaustive treatment of the subject, but the literature which a seminary professor requires to remain up-to-date in his lectures.

The lists cover older standard works as well as recent literature, and take into account works of reference and periodical literature as well as individual studies and texts. Particular articles in periodicals are generally only listed when they contain bibliographical information.

A feature of the lists will be short estimates of the value of particular works and series. These should be of special service to librarians and teachers. Special signs will

indicate indispensable works and those of particular value for pastoral work.

Contributors to the bibliographies have been requested to have their work finished by the end of 1957. It is expected that stencilled copies will then be distributed to contributors and to members of the Association. These will serve as the basis of the second, printed, edition which will be available to purchasers outside Holland.

Another activity of the Dutch Association is the production of microfiches of rare standard theological works long out-of-print. In recent years there has been much activity in the reproduction of such works on microfilm, microcard and microfiche. Suitable readers for all these methods of reproduction are now available in this country, and by their use many gaps in our libraries can be made good. A number of microfiches of works on theology and ecclesiastical history have been made available by the library of the Canisianum, Maastricht, Holland. A detailed list of them will be included in a catalogue shortly to be issued by The International Documentation Centre, Postfach 405, Stockholm-Vallingby, Sweden.

F. Courtney, S.J.

[Author's note: For the information on the German Association I am indebted to this year's President, the Reverend Dionysius Schütz, O.F.M., of Munich, and the Reverend Professor Honselmann of Paderborn; for that concerning Holland, to the Reverend Dr. Luchesius Smits, Udenhout, N.B., and the Reverend J. Rupert, S.J., of the Canisianum, Maastricht.]

[Editor's note: This account indicates some of the activities which the British Association could contemplate if its membership were comprehensive enough. This question of membership is probably the biggest single problem facing us at present. Professional librarians may well feel a certain doubt at the proposals for direct international inter-library loans in view of the already existing machinery of the National Central Library and its foreign counterparts. Father Courtney's assertion that suitable readers for all three methods of reproduction (microfilm, microcard, and microfiche) are now available in this country should be accepted only with some reserve; all depends upon what is meant by "suitable".]

The Scottish Scene. 3.

This article deals mainly with the libraries of colleges of denominations other than the Church of Scotland.

Two Roman Catholic collections are specially worthy of mention. First, the library of Blairs College, Aberdeen. This College was founded in 1829 to replace several smaller colleges which had existed in the Highlands, Banffshire and Aberdeenshire, for the education and training of boys as far as ordination to the Roman Catholic priesthood. In 1874 a senior college for the study of Catholic philosophy and theology was opened in Glasgow, and later transferred to St. Peter's College, Cardross, and since then Blairs College has been a junior residential college for boys up to the age of 18 who intend to go elsewhere to continue study for the priesthood. Blairs has therefore no occasion to keep up its collection of modern philosophy or theology. Its function now is purely historical and antiquarian, and indeed it is the main source in Scotland for the history of the post-Reformation Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.

The Library contains many books which were formerly in the smaller colleges referred to above, but its central part consists of the main library of the Scots College in Paris, which came to an end at the French Revolution. Part of its archives and most of the printed books were saved and brought to Scotland in the early 19th century. A considerable number of books of antiquarian interest were added in 1924 from a collection in Archbishop's House, Edinburgh. Further, the library contains the remains of several collections which in the 18th century were available to Roman Catholic mission priests, these books being usually marked "Ex libris missionis cleri saecularis Scoticae".

Among the MSS. in Blairs is the oldest 13th century cartulary from the Archdiocese of Glasgow. The library has the main old collection of muniments from the Scottish Benedictine Monastery of St. James, Ratisbon, beginning with their 12th century Bull. There is also the unprinted collection of Marianus Brockie for a projected history of monasticism in Scotland. Among the illuminated MSS. from various sources are the so-called "Hours of Anne of Bretagne", and another fine Horae, both of which have associations with the Beaton or Bethune family. There are about 20 incunabula, and several examples of early Scottish printing, including the unique "Twopenny Faith", Archbishop Hamilton's Catechism.

The Library is rich in the series of books cited by "Allison-Rogers" numbers - most of what is here is listed in the Allison-Rogers bibliography.

There is a large quantity of pamphlet material, mainly 17th century, especially concerning the Revolution of 1688 and of theologico-political interest. Controversial material bulks largely here. Thus there is a good deal on the later phases of Jansenism, circa A.D. 1700, a subject which was of great interest in the Scots College in Paris, the source of this material. The archive room houses a considerable quantity of papers which have been surveyed by the Scottish Record Office, which issued a summary list. The greatest problem concerns a collection of some 30,000 letters, dating from 1600 and especially from 1620, down to about 1860, but mostly 18th century. These are now in one chronological series, but they are the débris of the archives of the Scots Colleges abroad.

Finally, this library is rich in "association copies", books which belonged to figures of the Reformation or immediately post-Reformation period - bishops, higher ecclesiastics and members of religious orders, e.g., the Scottish Dominicans.

The second Roman Catholic library is that at the Abbey of Fort Augustus, of the Order of St. Benedict, which houses about 35,000 volumes. There are a few MSS., one worthy of special mention being a volume of patristic works from the hand of Marianus Scotus, written in 1080, with a few foot-notes in Old Irish. The finest of a small number of incunabula is Jenson's edition of St. Augustine's De Civitate Dei, Venice, 1475. Among the special collections is the Cassidy Collection of old religious controversy. There are not many Scottish items but there is a large number of the works published by English Catholics from the time of Henry VIII to that of George III, and especially in the 16th and 17th centuries, including many listed in Allison-Rogers. There is also the Gordon Collection of Celtic Books, and another of English Catholic Bibles, both of which are of great interest. In the section of Dogmatic Theology the Fathers are well represented, and the works of many less known theologians of the 17th to the 19th centuries, some of which are seldom met with in this country, are to be found there. This is the library of a Catholic religious community, with the expected emphasis on the sacred sciences and on those subjects which are appropriate for the attention of monks.

We turn now to the Library of Coates Theological Hall, Edinburgh, the College of the Scottish Episcopal Church. This contains some 16,000 volumes and may be treated in three sections. The General Library is a collection built up since 1846 of working books for theological study, and there has been

an effort to keep it as complete as possible for Scottish Church History and the general study of liturgy. There are many valuable papers from the 18th century among the MSS., some of which are listed in F. Goldie: A Short history of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, London, 1951, pp. 161-3.

The Bishop Jolly Library was collected by Alexander Jolly (1756-1838), Bishop of Moray, and was left by him to the Scottish Episcopal Church. It consists of about 5,000 volumes, 2,000 of which have recently been deposited on loan in the National Library of Scotland. It is particularly strong in 17th and 18th century theology and patristics, and there are many printed sermons and pamphlets.

The Forbes Library was assembled by George Hay Forbes of Burntisland, a great book-collector. This is mainly liturgical, but is strong, too, in Scottish Church history, patristics, and in magic and demonology. This section contains about 4,000 books, and this as well as the General Library has been catalogued according to the Dewey decimal system by the Rev. John Howe, now Bishop of St. Andrews. There are here some fine and interesting early bindings.

Associated with the above as an Episcopal Library is the Bishop Dowden Memorial Library, with over 4,000 volumes. John Dowden was Bishop of Edinburgh from 1886 to 1910. His library was purchased by the authorities of the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Mary after his death, and is kept in the Chapter House, except for 875 volumes which are deposited on loan in the National Library. This is very rich in the field of liturgical study - Dowden's work here is well known - and Church History. Many of the books have additional value by reason of annotations by Bishop Dowden. There are a few MSS. and incunabula, and some of the volumes have interesting book-stamps.

Lastly reference should be made to the Library of the Scottish Congregational College in Hope Terrace, Edinburgh. The College was founded in 1811, and the library provides the usual range of books required in the normal theological discipline for students. There are two features of special interest, first, a growing collection of pamphlets and brochures which deal with the foundation and history of Congregational Churches in Scotland, and second, a collection of works dealing with missionary enterprise overseas, with more specific reference to the work of the London Missionary Society. The library is in process of being re-catalogued.

Associated with this library and housed in the same building is the Forrester Collection of over 2,000 volumes,

presented by Dr. D.M. Forrester to the United Free Church (that section of the Church which did not enter the Union of 1929 with the Church of Scotland). This is particularly strong in pamphlet material, especially of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Finally, two postscripts to the first of this series of articles. The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland decided in May that its Library in the Tolbooth Church, Edinburgh, should be transferred to New College Library. This move is now in process, but the work will be slow. No decision has yet been taken as to the Records of the Church Courts, which will remain in the Tolbooth until the Assembly meets next year.

A note should be added regarding the Church of Scotland Lending Library at 121, George Street, Edinburgh. This is designed to provide a selection of books for the study of the Bible, the doctrine, worship and history of the Church, work among young people, and the social and religious mission of the Church in the world of to-day. It is a modern library and is being kept up-to-date, and it proves most useful to ministers, teachers, and others interested in the general work of the Church.

John A. Lamb, Ph.D., D.D.

[Note. The writer would again express his gratitude to the various librarians who have given him valuable and generous assistance.]

[Editor's note. The "Allison-Rogers" referred to by Dr. Lamb is: A Catalogue of Catholic books in English printed abroad or secretly in England, 1558-1640. By A.F. Allison and D.M. Rogers. 1956. This constitutes vol. 3, nos. 3/4, of the periodical Biographical studies, 1534-1829. Materials towards a biographical dictionary of Catholic history in the British Isles from the break with Rome to Catholic Emancipation. Joint editors: A.F. Allison and D.M. Rogers. Arundel Press, Sussex Rd., Bognor Regis, Sussex. 1951-. Title changed with vol. 4 to Recusant history; a journal of research in Post-Reformation Catholic history in the British Isles. Pub. under the editorial direction of the Catholic Record Society.

I think readers of thier Bulletin will agree that this 3-part survey of Scottish libraries has been most useful and informative. I hope it will be possible to publish further similar surveys from time to time, although there are few areas so well defined as Scotland in this respect.]

SCOTAPLL visit to Westminster Abbey

Fifteen members of SCOTAPLL spent a singularly enjoyable evening on Thursday June 12th when they were shown some of the lesser-known parts of Westminster Abbey by Mr. Lawrence Tanner, the Librarian and Keeper of the Muniments.

While 5 o'clock evensong prevented access to the Muniments Room half an hour or so was spent in the Undercroft, which houses a fascinating and strange collection of treasures - astonishingly life-like wax models of Charles II, Chatham, Nelson (the curling lock of hair which used to hide a scar on his forehead arranged by the hands of Lady Hamilton) and other notable people; the complete shaft of a 14th-century arrow found in the Abbey; the earliest known example of a stuffed bird (a parrot), and many other varied items.

In the Library itself, a lofty room with a fine roof, which was equipped by John Williams, Dean of Westminster and Archbishop of York, attention is immediately caught by the giant missal on display. This beautiful piece of work, which was two years in the making, was used for many mediaeval coronations, and Mr. Tanner pointed out how well-thumbed the pages were at the coronation service; also how the scribe enlivened his boredom with drawing comic and sometimes irreverent heads in many of the unilluminated capitals. The printed books are mostly housed in bookcases projecting like stalls from the side walls, each case containing three compartments, each with three shelves and having a hinged desk below it. At one end of the Library are showcases containing exhibits which illustrate the history of the country as well as the history of the Abbey. Here are documents of great antiquity side by side with the little purse of money with which Queen Elizabeth II redeemed the Sword of State at her Coronation; here are the earliest known examples of playing-cards; and surely to grasp in one's hand the sword of Henry V is not what one expects to do on a SCOTAPLL visit!

The Muniment Room of the Abbey is now connected with the Library by a wooden spiral staircase, the gift of the Pilgrim Trust. In this ancient gallery, which looks down on the Poets' Corner in the south transept, and is still floored with 13th-century tiles, are kept the thousands of manuscripts which form one of the most important collections in the country. They include cartularies, registers and rolls as well as single documents, many of them being of great importance to the historian and some of touching human interest. Neatly and simply arranged and indexed, these are easily available to any serious student.

SCOTAPLL is most grateful to Mr. Tanner not only for arranging the visit and sparing his valuable time, but for the delightful way in which he conducted the party round his treasures.

M. Elizabeth Edmondston.

